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LD071387 [Editorial Report]

Iran

U.S. involvement in the incident at Mecca in which Iranian pilgrims were killed is "crystal clear," President 'Ali Khamene'i told crowds gathered at Tehran University to mark the 'Id al-Adha ceremony, IRNA reported. In remarks cited by Tehran radio, Khamene'i reiterated Iran's avowal to seek revenge against Saudi Arabia and the United States for the incident, saying: "We do not consider Saudi Arabia the only guilty party in this incident. We consider America a partner in this, because America engineered the plot, tailored the politics, and extended assistance." Khamene'i also declared that the Mecca incident was not the result of a battle between Shi'ite and Sunni Muslims, but of a "war between the American perception of Islam and true revolutionary Islam." Meanwhile, the second planeload of Mecca victims, including 51 dead and 30 wounded, arrived in Tehran 7 August, IRNA reported.

Saudi Arabia

Three of the four employees kidnapped from the Saudi Embassy in Tehran have been released, a Foreign Ministry spokesman told SPA, adding that the "fate" of the fourth official remains unknown. SPA also cited a Foreign Ministry denial that security forces were "besieging" the Iranian Embassy and Consulate. The statement stressed that Saudi authorities have protected the Iranian facilities from "the wrath of citizens" and that the missions enjoy "total freedom" to carry out their activities.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian jet fighters attacked Iraqi positions and units in the Maymak operational region early 6 August, inflicting "heavy"

losses on the enemy, IRNA reported, citing a military communique. The communique said Iranian forces used a series of coordinated operations to mop up "isolated remnants" of Iraqi troops in the Maymak region. Meanwhile, IRNA noted Iraq's nonmention of the "Nasr-7" operations, claiming that "Baghdad's silence against the recent Iranian victories confirms the defeat and retreat of the demoralized Iraqi troops in the area."

Israel

Three "local residents" were shot during Nabulus "riots," IDF Radio reported 7 August, adding that the authorities believe the disturbances were caused by "terrorist elements" who want to disrupt the 'Id al-Adha holiday. Following a Molotov cocktail attack near Qalqilyah in which two civilians were injured, IDF forces instituted "preventive actions," Jerusalem radio reported. In remarks cited by the radio, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir recommended that the IDF periodically "change its moves" in dealing with the "terrorists." Regarding further reaction to the assassination of Captain Ron Tal, army and security personnel have been ordered not to travel alone in Gaza, IDF radio noted.

Lebanon

Former President Camille Sham'un died at Al-Rum Hospital in Al-Ashrafiyah 7 August, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain announced. Sham'un had been hospitalized the previous day with chest pains, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported.

Ahmad al-Dahtur of the Arab Democratic Party was shot to death in Tripoli, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported 7 August. The station also noted that an explosion occurred near a Syrian "center" in the city.

VOP Report on 'Arafat Banquet Address in India

N061930 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 6 Aug 87

["Text" of speech by Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestine Revolution Forces, at a dinner banquet hosted by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in New Delhi — date not given; read by announcer]

[Text] Your Excellency Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. On behalf of our Palestinian Arab people, on behalf of my brothers in the PLO Executive Committee, and in my name personally, I would like to express to Your Excellency, to your esteemed government, and to your friendly people our heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the hospitality and welcome accorded to us by your people since we arrived in your friendly country. I would like to seize this occasion to express to Your Excellency our people's gratitude for and appreciation of your friendly people's and country's constant and principled stands, under your courageous leadership, in support of the just struggle launched by our people under the PLO, their sole legitimate representative. This struggle is to regain their inalienable national rights, including their right to repatriation, to self-determination, and to establishing their independent Palestinian state on their national soil.

These courageous and fraternal stands confirm the depth and strength of the great relations binding our two peoples on the one hand and the PLO and your friendly government on the other. Dear Brother Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi: Our Palestinian Arab people inside and outside the occupied territories are being subjected to the same U.S.-Zionist-Israeli conspiracy. Our people inside the occupied territories are being subjected to the iron-fist policy. The Israeli Government carries out this policy through the use of its forces and armed gangs against our masses. Besides, the Israeli Government is confiscating lands, establishing settlements, staging large-scale arrest campaigns, and deporting leaders and cadres. It is also Judaizing holy places, banning liberties, and closing schools and universities. The Israeli Government is doing this to obliterate our people's rights and their national identity.

As for the situation in Lebanon, our people and kinfolk in the camps there have been subjected to repeated sieges. Agent gangs, with the help of Israel and its agents in Lebanon, carry out these sieges. In addition to that, Israel has been launching air, naval, and ground raids against the Palestinian camps and Lebanese villages. Their aim is to expel these people from Lebanon. This would pave the way for dividing Lebanon into sectarian cantons and balkanizing the whole region. However, our people and our masses will continue with their just struggle and resistance. They will use all means and ways to confront this spiteful occupation and its agents in the region.

This [confrontation and resistance] was manifested by this legendary steadfastness in defense of our masses in Lebanon's camps. It was also created by this large-scale and continuous mass uprising inside our occupied homeland. Our people have suffered. Conspiracies have been hatched against them. Despite this, they, under the leadership of the PLO, are looking forward to the establishment of a just and durable solution through the international conference. This conference must be convened

under the United Nation's auspices and within its framework, as this would enable our people to exercise their inalienable national rights. The five permanent members of the UN Security Council and all parties to the Middle East conflict must participate in this conference. The PLO must also participate in this conference on an equal basis with all parties concerned.

Your Excellency, dear brothers. There is another problem in the Middle East that promotes tension and threatens to explode in the region; namely, the Iraq-Iran war. I would like to seize this occasion to express to you our grave and deep concern over the continued dissipation of the two neighboring states' human and material capabilities and resources in this destructive war. This war would also turn the region into an arena for foreign intervention, endanger world peace and security, and harm the unity and solidarity of the Nonaligned Movement. Hence, it is necessary for our movement to revive its initiative and act quickly to find a durable and just solution to this bloody and destructive war. This is because our movement has material and moral influence on the two warring states. We certainly support the UN Security Council resolution which has recently been issued to end this war and find a peaceful solution to the outstanding problems. I highly value Iraq's acceptance of this resolution.

Our Palestinian people adhere to and respect the principles and objectives of the Nonaligned Movement. To demonstrate this adherence and respect, they once again voice their support and backing for all peoples who are struggling to achieve their freedom and independence in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. They also voice their unequivocal support and backing for the struggles of the peoples of Namibia and South Africa against the racist regime of Pretoria to achieve their freedom and independence. Our people also reiterate their unflinching backing and support for the African confrontation states against the aggressions, provocations, and encroachments of the racist regime of South Africa.

I would like to seize this occasion to voice our support for your efforts, dear brother, regarding Africa's fund. Furthermore, we also support India's policy which advocates the idea of turning the Indian Ocean into a zone free of nuclear weapons. We also voice our backing and support for all the international initiatives which call for bringing about nuclear disarmament to enable the world's peoples to live in peace and security and to save mankind from the dangers of destruction and extermination.

Concluding, I would like once again to express my heartfelt thanks to India, the country of civilization and history, under Rajiv Gandhi. I also call on you to drink to the health of dear brother Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and to the Palestinian-Indian friendship. Long live friendly India, the country of Gandhi, Indira Gandhi, Jawahar! Nehru, and Rajiv Gandhi.

'Arafat Arrives in Tunis

JN061850 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Excerpts] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, arrived in Tunis tonight from New Delhi.

This followed a 3-day visit to India during which he held talks with Indian President R. Venkataraman, Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, and a number of Indian officials. They discussed the latest developments of the Palestine question, the Middle East conflict, and the Iraq-Iran war. [passage omitted on 'Arafat's predeparture statement in Delhi]

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi held several rounds of official talks. These talks were characterized by understanding and convergence of views on the issues discussed. During these rounds of talks, they exchanged views on the situation in the Middle East, especially the latest developments of the Palestine question. They also reviewed Palestinian-Indian relations, Indian-Arab relations, and the

latest developments in the Iraq-Iran war. The Indian-Sri Lankan agreement and its positive effects on the situation in the region was another topic of their discussions. During these talks, Prime Minister Gandhi reiterated India's principled and firm stands in support of the just struggle launched by the Palestinian people under the PLO. He also emphasized India's continued readiness to provide further support for the PLO in its struggle to achieve a lasting and just peace in the region on the basis of realizing the Palestinian people's national rights.

The two leaders also reviewed ways to develop and enhance Palestinian-Indian ties of friendship on all levels and in the interest of both peoples.

Embassy in Paris States Libyan Attack 'Imminent'*AB061637 Paris AFP in French 1438 GMT 6 Aug 87*

[Excerpts] Paris, 6 Aug (AFP) — The Chadian Government yesterday condemned the concentration of Libyan forces in the extreme north of Chad and on the Sudan-Chad border. According to observers, Ndjamenas thus wants to remind its allies, including France, that the conflict between itself and Libya is not yet over and that fighting can now flare up at any moment.

A comunique from the Chadian Council of Ministers yesterday stated that a large movement of Libyan forces was operating in Chad's northern region and was progressing toward positions held by Chadian Government forces. This is while three columns of Libyan troops were also approaching Chad from the east from Sudan. [passage omitted]

While the Chadian Embassy in Paris stated today that a Libyan attack was "imminent," Chadian circles claim that Libyan and Chadian forces were separated in Chad's extreme north by only some 50 km. The FANT controls practically all the mountainous areas of the Tibesti region and its major towns such as Bardai, Zouar, and Yebbi Bou. All their defenses have been strengthened.

These same circles state that Libyan forces were holding Aozou and were occupying positions throughout the disputed zone. A Libyan military presence estimated at 1,500 men was also observed in Sudan's Darfur Province near Tine, it was specified. [passage omitted]

Opposition Urges Reconciliation With Government*AB071138 Paris AFP in French 0945 GMT 7 Aug 87*

[Text] Lome, 7 Aug (AFP) — The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Chad (FDLT) [Front Democratique de Liberation du Tchad], an opposition group established in 1982, yesterday in Lome called on all Chadian opposition movements to reconcile with the Ndjamenas government and condemned the Neo-GUNT (Chadian National Union Government set up in November 1986). In a statement delivered to AFP in Lome, Bernard Banghadi, chairman of the FDLT Central Committee's coordinating executive council, stated that Goukouni Oueddei (president of the former GUNT) is the GUNT's only legitimate leader. He strongly condemned the pro-Libyan Neo-GUNT headed by Acheikh ibn Oumar, which, according to him, is made up of "over-ambitious and counterrevolutionary elements."

The FDLT, which was born out of the Frolinat [Chadian National Liberation Front] (one of the component factions of the first GUNT, established in 1979), also issued an urgent call to its own fighters as well as to all cadres still fighting under the leadership of the CDR (Revolutionary Democratic Council of Acheikh ibn Oumar) to place themselves at President Goukouni Oueddei's disposal to hasten the process of reconciliation in Chad.

Minister Appeals for Aid Against Locust Invasion*AB061228 Dakar PANA in French 1143 GMT 5 Aug 87*

[Text] Ndjamenas, 5 Aug (PANA) — Gouara Lassou, Chadian minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, on 3 August issued an urgent appeal to the international community in Ndjamenas to assist Chad in containing the locust invasion that may seriously harm the present agricultural campaign. A message to this effect was sent to ambassadors accredited to Chad and to the representatives of international organizations. The showing of a film produced by FAO experts enabled the diplomats to understand the threat posed to Chadian agriculture if adequate measures are not immediately enacted. In this film, the diplomats were able to view migratory locusts ridding a tree of its leaves, voraciously devouring the vegetation, and flying in impressive swarms. Gouara Lassou indicated that about 20 species of locusts have currently infested various regions of the nation, with their density sometimes reaching 1,400,000 insects per hectare.

In addition to locusts, several other predators such as rodents (with an infestation rate of between 10 and 40 percent), birds, army worms, smut, bristles, and raghuras [French word as received] have attacked crops, thus forcing farmers to sow their crops several times or to simply abandon their farms. Losses in the next harvest possibly resulting from this attack have already been estimated at 59 percent. The sudden cessation of rains between mid-June and mid-July, following quite a promising start, created areas of drought in the Sahelian zone, thus increasing the people's fear. This break in the rains led to an increase in crop damage caused by pests and to increasing withering of young plants in all the nation's regions.

This situation caused the minister of foreign affairs to forecast a considerable grain deficit that may be the inevitable consequence of the combined plagues of drought and pests. Gouara Lassou therefore asked the international community to provide extra aid by supplying the necessary means to eradicate these pests before a general invasion occurs.

SAUDI ARABIA

3 of 4 Embassy Employees Released in Tehran

LD061829 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1815 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Riyadh, 6 Aug (SPA) — An official spokesman at the Foreign Ministry told SPA this evening that three of the kidnapped employees of the Saudi Embassy in Tehran have been released. He added: "As for our fourth colleague, his fate remains unknown."

Foreign Ministry Denies Iranian Embassy Besieged

LD061421 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1325 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Riyadh, 6 Aug (SPA) — There is no truth to a Tehran radio report broadcast this morning which has stated that Saudi forces have been besieging Iran's Embassy and Consulate in Riyadh and Jeddah, and that they have threatened to open fire at those inside. This denial was made by an official spokesman for the Saudi Foreign Ministry in a statement to SPA. He said that all the accusations broadcast by Tehran radio were false and that the report was totally fabricated.

The spokesman affirmed that the Saudi Arabian Kingdom has a renowned history for upholding human and Islamic ethics in its dealings with others and was one of the first to adhere to and respect international agreements. There is no better proof of this than its care in protecting the Iranian Embassy and Consulate from the wrath of citizens, who could storm these buildings, set

fire to their contents, and destroy pictures of the Iranian leaders exactly as the Iranian regime did to the Saudi Embassy in Tehran — an action its leaders boasted about through the Iranian media at the time.

The spokesman stressed that the Iranian Embassy and Consulate in the Kingdom are carrying out their functions in total freedom. This is witnessed by all the diplomatic representations accredited to and resident in the Kingdom. This is also felt by all God's pilgrims, who can see for themselves the tangible reality which is far from the charges and allegations disseminated by the Iranian mass media. According to these charges, the Saudi authorities annoy the Iranian pilgrims and mistreat the wounded in hospitals. In reality, however, they enjoy the comfort and care the Kingdom provides to all pilgrims of Holy God's house equally.

Concluding his statement, the spokesman asserted that the Kingdom, in an effort to expose the truth to the public and to prevent foreign agencies from falling into the labyrinths of the continuous Iranian lies, had to clarify this situation.

Kuwaiti Defense Minister Leaves for Home 7 Aug

LD070907 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0700 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 7 Aug (SPA) — Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh Salim Sabah al-Salim al-Sabah left Jeddah this morning for home after having performed the pilgrimage. [passage omitted]

Syrian Pilot's Release, Departure Reported*JN061718 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1650 GMT 6 Aug 87*

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Aug (INA) — INA has learned that Hamdi Jabr, the Syrian pilot whose aircraft was shot down after it entered Iraqi airspace, departed Iraq last night for his country accompanied by Arab League representatives.

On 28 July, an Iraqi military spokesman stated that a Syrian MIG-21 was downed 6 km northwest of the Al-Qa'im complex in ('Akashat).

President Interviewed on Gulf War, French Ties*PM071050 Paris LE MATIN in French 31 Jul 87 p 4*

[Interview with President Saddam Husayn by Charles Saint-Prot in Baghdad; date not given]

[Text] *Le Matin*: Does the recent resolution adopted by the UN Security Council open up hopes for peace in the Gulf war?

Saddam Husayn: First, it must be noted that this resolution was adopted following a proposal forwarded by the five permanent Security Council members. For the first time since the war started in September 1980, the great powers, particularly the United States and the Soviet Union, have decided to work together to promote peace. The new factor is that the United States, which has learned from the Irangate scandal, and the Soviet Union have agreed to use their influence.

The text of the resolution is consistent with previous UN resolutions which, I remind you, have always been accepted by Iraq. We therefore accepted this new resolution because we truly desire peace. However, we do think that it is time to progress to a new phase in the efforts being made by the international community.

All types of sanctions, especially those concerning arms sales, should be imposed against the country that is the warmonger. The international community's credibility is at stake, especially since the superpowers are involved in the process.

Le Matin: Was it the internationalization of the Gulf difficulties and, perhaps, the attack on the [U.S.] frigate *Stark* that sparked this new awareness?

Saddam Husayn: Iraq has never sought to link security in the Gulf with the question of ending the war. However, it is a fact that these two problems cannot be solved separately, as recent events have demonstrated. The increasingly irresponsible attitude adopted by the Iranian regime — which is threatening freedom of navigation in the Strait of Hormuz and in the Gulf — and the security of some Gulf states (particularly Kuwait) have demonstrated that the conflict may worsen at any time. In addition, it is in the two superpowers' interests not to allow the situation to deteriorate but to find a rapid solution instead. I believe that they are now convinced of this.

Le Matin: However, is there not a danger that more attention will be paid to security in the Gulf, a vital area for the Western

economies, and that the problem of the war will instead take second place?

Saddam Husayn: Any attempt to separate Gulf security from the war would be an illusion and would not produce results. The agitation in the Gulf region is the result of the war and its continuation.

Khomeyni's aggressive policy is to blame for this situation. If Khomeyni is forced to end the war, any justification for agitation and aggression in the Gulf region will be removed. But, if the war is continued, the Gulf will be exposed to agitation and its security threatened daily.

To answer your question, supposing that it were possible to separate security in the Gulf from the war, are the two superpowers now prepared to divide the Gulf into spheres of influence?

Are the Gulf peoples prepared to accept such a division? Is it easier to divide the area into spheres of influence or agree on such a division than to agree on halting and putting an end to the war?

The fact is that it is now easier to reach agreement on ending the conflict than on the Gulf's vast problems. Moreover, ending the war would immediately solve all the region's security difficulties.

Le Matin: In view of the international community's new attitude and the various problems encountered by Iran, are you optimistic about the outcome of a conflict that, in a few weeks' time, will enter its 7th year?

Saddam Husayn: I believe that the situation can be compared with the last few days of a fast; in other words, both are difficult and painful, but the end is in sight.

We desire peace, and we will do all that we can to promote it. However, if the war continues, we will resist with the same determination and success. We are prepared to stand firm for as long as is necessary.

Le Matin: France, which is one of Iraq's main partners, initiated a process of normalizing relations with Iran that failed. Were you worried about the French attitude, and how do you view the development of relations between Paris and Tehran?

Saddam Husayn: For a long time both sides have desired Iraqi-French relations to be strong, friendly ones based on our nations' interests and on a long-term strategic outlook. Relations of such a quality do not depend on the situation. Ties between France and Iraq are strong and France, which has a role to play in the Middle East, will discover one day that it has made the right choice by remaining loyal to its friendship with Iraq.

Regarding relations between Paris and Tehran, I naturally do not want to pass judgment on a friendly nation's diplomacy. I am convinced that the French leaders' main concern is for France's greatness, following the line of General de Gaulle's policy. That is why I have never thought that France could allow its behavior to be dictated by blackmail or the terrorist threat used by the Iranian regime as a last resort. Such an attitude would have been

contrary to the view that the world — especially the Arab nation — possesses of your country.

No state worthy of the name can accept the Iranian regime's behavior, on pain of being held hostage by that regime. The serious nature of the Irangate scandal should be carefully considered by all Western states, and they should be aware of the issue's serious nature and possess the courage to stand firm and not adopt short-term mercenary attitudes....

Le Matin: Are you referring to the FRG?

Saddam Husayn: And of other countries. Faced with a country whose methods of intimidation are reminiscent of those used by Hitler, the West must remember the lessons of history, remember that there is a high price to be paid for weakness and resignation, and instead show firmness and dignity. In this context, it must be admitted that Iraq is the only stable factor in a region whose importance does not need to be stressed. Iraq is not fighting simply to defend its independence and unity, but is also the custodian of certain values in the face of a worrying and barbarous experiment. It is only by ending the war that we can reduce the danger that, moreover, is perceived by all the world's leaders.

Communique No 2,768 Details Combat 5-6 Aug

*JN061635 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1600 GMT 6 Aug 87*

[Communique No 2,768 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 6 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The valiant Iraqi forces possess strong determination and faith in the

inevitable, near, and decisive victory. Employing these qualities, they continued their heroic activities in defense of Iraq and its citizens against the Zionist agents and the barbaric clique's remnants. The following is a roundup of activities for last night and today:

1. Our heroic Air Force continued to deliver devastating blows against the enemy scoundrels, inflicting further losses in life, weapons, and equipment. Our planes then returned safely to base after carrying out 50 combat missions, praise be to God.
2. Our daring helicopter gunships carried out a series of successful raids on enemy concentrations and gun emplacements. In 74 combat missions, they inflicted further losses on the enemy, then returned safely to base, praise be to God.
3. A vehicle loaded with personnel and ammunition and a medium machinegun were destroyed, three enemy soldiers were killed, and several ammunition dumps were detonated in the I Army Corps northern sector.
4. Two ammunition dumps were blown up, an infantry position was destroyed, and enemy engineering work was halted in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.
5. An infantry position was destroyed and an ammunition dump was detonated in the V Army Corps northern sector.
6. An enemy soldier was killed and an observation post was destroyed in the VII Army Corps sector.
7. Two ammunition dumps were destroyed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 6 August 1987

Peres Assesses U.S. Policy on Conference

TA061739 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1605 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, has said that the government did not decide to stop the actions to advance an international opening. He intends to continue with his efforts to promote this, for there is no other alternative. Commenting on Prime Minister Shamir's activities for direct negotiations among the various sides, Mr Peres stated that he wishes the prime minister success but does not think that he will find supporters. Our correspondent Sheli Yehimovitch has brought us these remarks by Mr Peres:

[Begin Peres recording] The current U.S. Administration, headed by President Reagan and Secretary of State Shultz, is one of the most friendly administrations we have had. I do not know what things will be in the future. As far as I know, this administration is prepared to sign a memorandum of understanding with Israel, one that will include the nature of an international opening — the United States has already said that if we leave, it will leave — to make the framework one in which no one can impose anything; that is the first thing. The second thing, in my view, is that the United States will be prepared to discuss the comprehensive framework of the agreement with us. Many people ask: Fine, you will meet with the Jordanians, what will you offer? I have no doubt that if it is the national unity government or an Alignment or Likud government, we will begin with an interim arrangement, something along the lines of autonomy. An agreement can be reached with the United States on this, too. That's my belief; not that I have a promise of this sort. [end recording]

Sinyurah Notes No Conference in 'Coming 3 Years'

TA070448 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Hanna Sinyurah, who has been mentioned by Shim'on Peres as a possible candidate in a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to an international Middle East peace conference, says he does not believe that such a conference will convene within the next 3 years. The *Al-Fajr* newspaper editor, who has said he may stand as a candidate in the next Jerusalem municipal elections, was interviewed by reporter Steve Rodan.

[Begin recording] [Sinyurah] Mr Peres has not been able to succeed to push forward the international conference. I believe the idea of an international conference is receding at the moment, and probably for the next coming 3 years we will not be seeing such an international conference taking place, because we are getting closer to a presidential election year in the United States — 1988 — and during that year a superpower like the United States is not interested in international conferences, specifically on the issue of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

[Rodan] Three years, that's a long time. And doesn't that sort of clash with the timetable of Egypt or Jordan?

[Sinyurah] It has been plain that Mr Peres has not been able to get the endorsement of his partner in the coalition government,

the Likud, for an international conference that offers very little to the Palestinians, while it's really an achievement for the Labor Party and Peres. So with that attitude in Israel — and here in the Knesset it's not the Labor Party but the Likud who has the numbers — it means that the prospect of an international conference this year and next year are out. [end recording]

Alignment Decides To Stay in Government

TA070902 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 7 Aug 87 p 1

[Text] "Everyone is ready for an international conference and were it not for Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's refusal, it would have been possible to get down to the practical preparations and the conference could have been opened this very year. [punctuation as published] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres made this statement this week in a closed forum.

Peres said that the Soviet Union is still setting obstacles on the path of the conference. However, he believes that if the Soviets form the impression that the conference could open without them, they will soften their position. At the Labor Party ministers forum yesterday, Peres said that if the opportunity for an international conference is missed, the superpowers might try to impose a forced solution on Israel.

The ministers' forum decided that for the moment the Alignment will remain within the government and continue its work for the international conference, for there is no other alternative. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin asserted that the political issue must be fought for, and he attacked the Likud for the transfer policy. Rabin claimed: This shows the bankruptcy of the Herut Movement.

Sinyurah Says Charges Reflect 'Rightward' Shift

TA061750 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] *Al-Fajr* editor Hanna Sinyurah says that the police recommendations that charges be filed against him reflect the changing political atmosphere. Police had recommended that Sinyurah be prosecuted on several charges, including the publishing of an interview with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, and of being interviewed on Israeli television with a portrait of 'Arafat in the background. Reporter Steve Rodan interviewed Sinyurah and filed this report:

[Begin recording] [Rodan] Hanna Sinyurah says this is not the first time that he has had complaints filed against him with the police. The *Al-Fajr* editor said Qiryat Arba' attorney Elyaqim Ha'etzni, a Jewish settlement leader, has often filed police complaints on Sinyurah's operation of the pro-PLO daily. But this time the police are taking Ha'etzni's complaints seriously and Hanna Sinyurah says that change of attitude reflects a sign of the times in Israel.

[Sinyurah] I have to stress that the political atmosphere is suffering from the pressure that the right-wing parties, the Gush Emunim movement, the settlers in the occupied territories, are putting over not only [Police Affairs Minister Hayim] Bar-Lev,

but many times over Defense Minister Rabin. I believe the whole scene in Israel is moving rightward.

[Rodan] At this point, police are recommending that Sinyurah be charged in connection with his publishing of an interview earlier this year with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, as well as being interviewed on Israeli television with an 'Arafat portrait in the background, publishing a diary that contains key dates in the history of the PLO, and displaying a poster of a man killed in the territories. Two other charges filed by Ha'etzni were reportedly dropped by police.

In the meantime, Sinyurah says he has not been contacted by authorities, but he has hired a lawyer just in case. [end recording]

Vanunu Trial Set For Jerusalem End of Aug
TA070420 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] The trial of Mordekhay Vanunu will get under way at the end of August in the Jerusalem District Court. The proceedings will be held behind closed doors. Vanunu is charged with treason and spying. The former technician, who worked at the Dimona nuclear reactor, was the source for stories in the London *Sunday Times* newspaper regarding Israel's nuclear potential.

Peres Sends King Husayn Message on Water Drilling
TA061133 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 6 Aug 87 p 1

[Report by Yosi Melman]

[Text] Israel has promised Jordan to stop the water drilling in the Herodian region if it damages the water balance in the area.

This message was sent to Jordan's King Husayn by Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, via Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj, who has gone to Amman for meetings with the king among others.

The issue of the water drilling, which is arousing great opposition in the United States, Jordan, Egypt, and the United Nations on the claim that it is a violation of international law, was the main topic of Shim'on Peres' talk with Ilyas Frayj the day before yesterday. In this context it has been learned that there is opposition within Israel itself to the drilling, particularly within the Civilian Administration and among experts on international law. They believe that it contravenes international charters and could damage and deplete the water sources in the area, in which case the local Arab residents would be the main victims.

Agreement Reached on Film Corporation With USSR
TA061136 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew
6 Aug 87 p 16

[Report by Yitzhaq Yosha']

[Excerpt] There is further evidence of an improvement in Israeli-Soviet relations: An agreement on a cinema coproduction

between the Cannon film company and its Israeli branch, the Golan-Globus Company, and the Soviet state film company Mosfilm.

Menaheem Golan, one of the Cannon directors, and the Mosfilm director have agreed to coproduce a comedy to be filmed in Israel, the Soviet Union, and Vienna. The comedy will tell of a non-Jewish Georgian who comes to Israel and is arrested on suspicion of being a KGB agent.

The film will be shot in two versions: Russian and English. The production expenses will be divided between the two production companies. The Russians will finance the shooting in the Soviet Union and the Cannon-Golan-Globus company will finance the shooting in Israel. Cannon will also handle world distribution of the film.

In the wake of the agreement, Georgian director George Denelya and scriptwriter Revez Gabiyadzhe [names as published] are scheduled to come to Israel at the end of this month. The Foreign Ministry has authorized the Netherlands Embassy in Moscow to issue visas to the two. [passage omitted]

Paper To Receive Stories From Reporter in Iran
TA061056 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
6 Aug 87 p 1

[Text] Beginning with the Sabbath edition of *'Al Hamishmar* [Friday, 7 August], our paper will carry reports and articles by 'Ali Sargon, our paper's special correspondent in Tehran. The edition will carry a story on the reactions in Iran in the wake of the events in Mecca and a comprehensive article about the social and political reality in Islamic Iran.

'Ali Sargon is the first correspondent to write directly for an Israeli paper since the Khomeyni revolution.

Former Gaza Mayor Offers Gaza Strip to Egypt
TA070854 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
7 Aug 87 p A1, A2

[Report by Avino'am Bar-Yosef]

[Text] Former Gaza Mayor Rashad al-Shawwa has recently conducted political contacts with Egypt, in coordination with Israel, with the goal of returning the Gaza Strip to Egyptian sovereignty as part of a solution to the Palestinian problem. Egypt did not show any enthusiasm for the idea and abandoned the proposal.

As part of the political contacts being conducted in the area, it has emerged that from Amman Ilyas Frayj will continue en route to Bucharest in order to meet with Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu. The trip is being made at the invitation of the Romanian president. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir will arrive in Bucharest in 10 days, also at the invitation of the Romanian president.

Reaction to Molotov Cocktail Attack in Qalqilyah

Mitzna' Comments on 'Terrorists'

TA061219 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] 'Amram Mitzna', commander of the Central Command, says that there may be a link between this morning's incident and the attack directed at the Moses family a while ago. However, no clear statement on this can be issued yet since the investigation has just begun. He said there is no doubt that a terrorist squad, whose members have not yet been captured, is operating in the area. Major General Mitzna' added that several villagers who work near the site of the incident have been detained. Maj Gen Mitzna' asserted that in his opinion the area is free from instigators or terrorists who have been released from jail and who should be acted against. The major general noted that several preventative measures have been planned for the section of the road where this morning's incident took place and that some hills should be treated, as he described it. He added that this action will now be accelerated by the IDF.

The Qalqilyah mayor expressed regret about the incident but said that he was surprised by the curfew imposed on his town since the incident took place outside it. Mayor 'Abd al-Rahman Abu Sanini talked with our correspondent Arye Gus.

Curfew Lifted, IDF Takes Steps

TA061414 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] The curfew on Qalqilyah, imposed this morning after a Molotov cocktail was thrown at an Israeli car, was lifted about an hour ago. This has been reported by our correspondent Arye Gus.

Our military correspondent has told us that the IDF is to increase its presence in the sector between Qalqilyah and Alfe Menashe. Among other things, the establishment of several permanent positions along the highway is being considered.

Today the commander of the Central Command said several preventative actions have been prepared for the section of the highway in which this morning's attack occurred; the IDF will now accelerate these actions.

Shamir Urges Changing IDF Moves

TA061728 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1605 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has stated that sometimes there is a need to react in such a way that the local population feels the IDF's hard hand. He told our correspondent Shmu'el Tal that IDF commanders should take into consideration the feelings of the Jewish settlers in the territories, because they feel what occurs.

[Begin recording][Shamir] Well, I view this gravely. This is the second case in which a family has been harmed. I wish Mrs Regev

a speedy recovery. I was happy to hear that her wounds are not serious and I hope she will overcome them quickly. At the same time, there are incidents, there are attempts to throw Molotov cocktails which do not cause serious results. However, they, too, must be viewed with gravity and we must work to stop them. I think the IDF will do so.

[Tal] How do you view the steps in the field the IDF is taking to cut down and to prevent attacks of this type?

[Shamir] I think that from time to time the IDF should change its moves and its methods in order to surprise the terrorists and possibly put an end to their deeds. [end recording]

Chief of Staff on IDF Presence

TA061734 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1605 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] The chief of staff expressed his reaction to the incident in Alfe Menashe this afternoon. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal met with Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Dan Shomron.

[Begin recording][Shomron] There will be a greater presence in accordance with situations we will assess in the field. Nothing is certain there. It seems that in the near future, in the same region where the latest attack took place, there will also be a presence in the field. Some of the patrols to be implemented on the highways, on the routes along which the settlers travel, will depart from places in the field closer to the routes themselves, and thus an additional presence will be shown. There was a curfew on Qalqilyah immediately after the attack, for the purpose of searches, for checking all the findings in the field, and in an attempt to discover the gang itself. We discovered the site of their lair, the place where they waited. For the moment we do not have the ability to say that we are on the tracks of those who threw the Molotov cocktails.

[Tal] As a result of the steps the IDF is now going to take, will the level of security be increased in Judea and Samaria, particularly in this sector, which has recently been uneasy?

[Shomron] To be realistic, this graph of attack incidents and tension rises and falls. I assume we will reduce it to a bearable level of security, as it has been continuing for most of the time.

[Tal] Bearable to whom? That is the question, because the inhabitants in the area say that any such attack is unbearable.

[Shomron] That is true. And not only in the areas of Judea and Samaria. Any attack is unbearable, and I assume you all know that the incidents that result in injured within the State of Israel are more numerous than those that occur in Judea and Samaria. [end recording]

Nabulus Resident Injured in Rioting 6 Aug

TA061747 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1730 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] A Nabulus resident was shot this evening as part of the security measures against rioters in the territories. The incident occurred at around 1800 this evening in Nabulus' commercial center. The rioters hurled bottles and stones and burned tires. An IDF unit that arrived at the scene dispersed the gathering. While it was trying to detain a suspect, however, one of the rioters was shot in the leg. The person was later evacuated to the hospital in Nabulus.

Our correspondent Zohar Melamed recalls that a similar incident occurred last night in Nabulus, too. That incident ended in the injury of a local resident, who later ran away from the hospital.

4 Incidents in West Bank; 3 Nabulus Residents Hurt

TA070618 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0500 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Four incidents were reported in Judaea and Samaria last night: Some involved disruptions of public order, while others included the hurling of Molotov cocktails. In addition to the incident near Alfe Menashe, another Molotov cocktail was thrown at a bus passing the settlement of 'Ofra. There were also two riots in Nabulus in the course of which three local residents were shot.

The security forces believe that the wave of rioting is connected to 'Id al-Adha, which is being celebrated these days, and that terrorist elements are trying to spoil the holiday atmosphere.

IDF, UNIFIL Implement Coordination Measures

TA061754 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Coordination procedures to prevent incidents like the one in which two UNIFIL soldiers from Norway were injured this week were laid down today between the IDF and UNIFIL. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the commander of the Northern Command has instructed the IDF unit for liaison with UNIFIL to do all it can to heal the wounds caused by the incident. From the IDF debriefing it transpires that the patrol with the Norwegian soldiers went a considerable distance from the route marked on the map given to the IDF by the UN officers. This is what was explained today to the UNIFIL commander and Norwegian officers in the region of the incident.

New IDF Gaza Travel Regulations Issued

TA070653 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0630 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Major General Yitzhaq Mordekhay, the commander of the Southern Command, has issued new regulations governing the movement of soldiers and security forces personnel in the Gaza Strip. From now on, Army and security personnel will be forbidden to travel alone in any vehicle in the Gaza Strip area, and those who reach the area unaccompanied will not be permitted entry.

Our military correspondent Alon Ben-David reports that these measures have been implemented following the assassination of the late Captain Ron Tal.

Former President Sham'un Dies of Heart Attack

NC071351 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 1347 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] O Lebanese, His Excellency former President Camille Sham'un, minister of finance, leader of the Lebanese Front, and leader of the National Liberal Party, died this afternoon after a heart attack.

Kan'an's Deputy Reportedly Planned Shuqayr's Murder

NC061951 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 1845 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] According to information received today, Brigadier General 'Ali Hammud, deputy to Ghazi Kan'an, chief of Syrian intelligence in Lebanon, planned the assassination of Presidential Adviser Muhammad Shuqayr.

Shuqayr had received numerous threats, particularly after the assassination of Prime Minister Karami, warning him to stop his mediation efforts between President Al-Jumayyil and the Islamic Grouping and Sunni leaders. The threats became more frequent in the 10 days prior to his assassination, and came either at night or early in the morning. They were made by a person speaking with a Syrian accent. Security circles advised Shuqayr to move to the eastern sector, but he insisted on remaining where he was in order to act as a link between the two sectors of Beirut.

According to this information, 'Ali Hammud detailed a group of soldiers, including an officer, from the detachment stationed at Beau Rivage Hotel to carry out the assassination. The group was accompanied by a Lebanese person whose identity has not been revealed.

Junblatt, Fadlallah Condemn Mecca 'Massacre'

LD070754 Tehran IRNA in English 0729 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Beirut, Aug 7 IRNA — Leader of the Socialist Progressive Party in Lebanon Walid Junblatt has condemned the ruthless massacre of Iranian hajj pilgrims by Saudi police instructed by the U.S.

The condemnation came in a meeting between him and the Iranian Ambassador to Beirut Ahmad Dastmalchian at Al-Mukhtarah Township, the hometown of Junblatt in Jabal, Thursday.

The Iranian ambassador described the meeting as useful saying it was essential for Iran to coordinate its stands with revolutionary and progressive forces in the region, at different stages.

He said he had discussed with Junblatt, various issues including the recent U.S. movements in the region as well as the Saudi massacre of Iranian hajj pilgrims in Mecca last Friday.

Dastmalchian said he had thanked Junblatt for his recent revolutionary stance and support for the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Speaking to IRNA, Junblatt reiterated his condemnation of international plots against Iran. He said the current issues in Lebanon and regional developments were among the matters brought up in his meeting with Dastmalchian.

"We condemn any aggression and conspiracy against the Islamic Republic and the Iranian Muslim nation and declare our support for the Islamic Revolution which toppled the greatest U.S. dependent regime (the ex-shah) in the region," Junblatt was quoted as saying.

Junblatt also condemned the Mecca carnage and said the holy sanctuaries should not be under the control of those who want to implement their political objectives in these divine places. "Hajj must be a free tribune for Muslims the world over," he said.

Junblatt said Hizballah was a real power and the vanguard in the fight against Israel. "It (the party) is important for us and it is natural for us to have strong ties with it," he said.

The SPP leader described as aggressive the recent U.S. movements in the Persian Gulf saying that Washington and Western countries aim to impose a blockade on the freedom-fighters in the region.

Junblatt did not rule out the possibility of these (U.S.) fleets once again heading for Lebanon in which case, he expressed hope they would face the same defeat they did in the past and would be thrown out of the region.

He also attacked the Maronite rule in Lebanon and accused Amin Al-Jumayyil of plundering the wealth of the people. He said the Maronite leaders were ready to take advantage of any developments in order to continue their "illegitimate domination" in Lebanon.

In another development, Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, a prominent religious figure of Lebanon, met with Imam Khomeyni's representative and head of Iranian hajj pilgrims, Hojjat ol-Islam Mahdi Karrubi, in Mecca Thursday.

Fadlallah condemned the massacre of Iranian hajj pilgrims by Saudi agents with the collaboration of U.S. and Israel, and expressed his condolences with and support for the Iranian people.

He said Karrubi's patience in maintaining a state of calm among the pilgrims was a wise measure to thwart plots of the enemies of Islam.

PSP's Junblatt Confers With Iranian Ambassador

NC062105 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 1900 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Walid Junblatt received Iranian Ambassador Ahmad Dastmalchian and other senior embassy officials in Al-Mukhtarah today. During the meeting, the discussion centered on domestic and regional issues.

Asked about the nature of his visit, the Iranian ambassador said: We had been looking forward to meeting with Walid Junblatt. We are happy we had this opportunity to meet with one of the progressive and nationalist Lebanese figures and to discuss ways of confronting imperialism and Zionism in the region. During our meeting, we examined ways of confronting Zionism and its agents in the country. God willing, the appropriate practical measures needed for this will materialize soon.

The Iranian ambassador added: We also discussed the U.S. intervention in the Gulf. Junblatt's views on this issue were close to ours. We told Junblatt we are ready to strike at U.S. interests anywhere in the world if America makes any stupid move against us in the Gulf. We will not allow America to live in peace if we are forced to live in peril.

We also have discussed the UN resolution, which was lopsided and biased in Iraq's favor, the Iranian ambassador disclosed. He added: We pointed out to Junblatt that the UN Security Council has thus far condoned U.S. and Israeli crimes against the Palestinians and the Lebanese. We also told him we will not accept these resolutions and will resist them when necessary.

Dastmalchiyan noted: We reviewed with Junblatt the situation in Lebanon and discussed the ways in which the enemies of the nationalists and the Muslims in Lebanon could be confronted. We had an extensive discussion which will, God willing, result in tangible measures in more than one area. The strugglers against Israel and domestic enemies must exhibit greater unity. The discussions revealed that the views which we and Junblatt hold are quite similar.

Asked if the discussion touched upon the issue of the hostages in Lebanon, the Iranian ambassador said: This issue was not broached at all.

With regard to the rapprochement between the Islamic Republic and Junblatt, Dastmalchiyan said: Junblatt is a progressive leader with whom we discussed current issues. His recent statements were another factor that led to this meeting. We told him these statements were received with joy by strugglers and revolutionaries in many parts of the world who are resisting America, Israel, and France.

The Iranian ambassador was asked if there was any connection between the situation in the Gulf and the conspiracies against the Lebanese people. He said: As you are aware, revolutionaries everywhere have a common cause. It will be difficult to separate the plot unravelling now in the Gulf from events in Lebanon. We warn the Americans, who are now maintaining an illegal presence in the Gulf, that they will suffer the same fate there as they did in Lebanon. Their fate in the Gulf will not be better than the one which the Marines, the Multinational Force, and others have met in Lebanon. There is one plot being hatched against the oppressed and it must be confronted in only one way.

Dastmalchiyan said: During our discussion of the recent events in Mecca, Junblatt expressed his pain and sorrow over the incident.

For his part, Junblatt had granted an interview to Iranian television in which he assailed the vicious U.S. and imperialist campaign against Iran and the Iranian people. Junblatt expressed his grief over the events in Mecca and said: We hope Mecca will be spared the turmoil of politics in the future. Junblatt said his rapprochement with the Iranian revolution is not a tactical move, but is part of the solidarity among revolutionaries throughout the world.

Junblatt also stated that the issue of the foreign hostages in Lebanon was not discussed during his meeting with the Iranian ambassador.

Interviewed by Iranian Television

NC070800 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 0430 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] During a lengthy interview with Iranian television, PSP leader Walid Junblatt delineated his stands on various local and regional developments over the past few days. The PSP leader's interview came after his meeting yesterday with Iranian Ambassador to Lebanon Ahmad Dastmalchiyan and a number of embassy staffers.

In this interview Junblatt said his talks with the ambassador dealt with Lebanese and regional developments resulting from the increasingly vicious U.S. imperialist onslaught against Iran and its people. Junblatt said this onslaught is rejected in part and parcel.

Asked about recent events in Mecca and their objective, Junblatt said: We would definitely like to keep Mecca far from all political conflicts. It should belong to all faithful and Muslims. What happened there is extremely regrettable and painful.

In response to a question, Junblatt said his rapprochement with the Iranian revolution is not a tactical move but rather a rapprochement among all revolutionaries throughout the world. It is natural for us to side with the Iranian revolution and its people when the U.S. crusading fleets seek to quell this revolution, this people, and this uprising that overthrew the shah, an imperialist tool in the region. We know this rapprochement will be translated into practical, objective, and strategic steps, God willing. As I said, we oppose this alien onslaught against the Iranian people, the Lebanese people, and every faithful Arab Muslim people.

Asked if today's discussions and those held during his meeting with Hizballah had anything to do with the issue of foreign hostages in Lebanon, particularly Terry Waite, Junblatt noted: The hostage issue was not broached at all. We discussed only the principles of the nationalist Islamic confrontation of Israel in the south and the confrontation of the Israel in the north [the Phalangists]. We believe Hizballah constitutes a part of the principal forces in this confrontation.

Asked if he thinks the U.S.-French-British show of force in the Gulf is connected with the current Lebanese crisis, Junblatt said: The Lebanese regime and Amin al-Jumayyil and his agents will benefit from this show of force. I believe Al-Jumayyil and his clique will bring fleets to Lebanon, as they did in the past.

They have tried to bring Americans and non-Americans, but the strugglers expelled them. Indeed, this is extremely serious and could affect Lebanon.

Asked about the recent argument between [former president] Sham'un and Dr Salim al-Huss and about current events in Lebanon, Junblatt said: Sham'un and Amin al-Jumayyil plundered the Treasury. However, they are trying to level accusations against Al-Huss. It is high time we, as Muslims and nationalists, unified our stand, rejected this logic, and completely boycotted the so-called B'abda regime and the regime of the shah of B'abda.

Junblatt was asked: You recently participated in establishing the Liberation and Unification Front. How far has this Front gone now that the propaganda campaign that preceded its formation has apparently subsided? He answered: We hope the Front will take the required political steps. We have not met yet due to certain circumstances. We hope the Front will measure up to its enormous responsibilities.

Asked to specify the circumstances delaying a meeting, Junblatt answered, laughing: 'Id al-Adha.

Pro-Syrian Official Assassinated in Tripoli
NC070531 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 0445 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] We received a security report from Tripoli a short while ago saying an explosion occurred at 0415 today near a center of the Syrian occupation forces there. Details are not yet available.

Meanwhile, gunmen have assassinated Ahmad al-Dahtur, an official of the pro-Syrian Arab Democratic Party, in the Al-Tabbanah quarter of Tripoli.

'Large Number' of Iranians Deployed in South
NC070959 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 0945 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] In its latest edition, the weekly *Magazine* reports that a large number of Iranians, including men of religion, military commanders, and gunmen, have arrived in southern Lebanon, particularly in Tyre. *Magazine* adds that approximately 100 Iranians charged with planning attacks against the Israeli Army and the South Lebanese Army. *Magazine* notes that the Iranians' deployment is taking place at the expense of the Amal Movement, whose control of the area is being diminished.

Al-Shar' Briefs Al-Asad on Mission to Tehran
JN061202 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad today received Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'. The minister briefed the president on his mission to Tehran and conveyed Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i's reply to the president's message concerning the recent incidents in Mecca and the need to restore calm to the situation between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Iraq Releases MIG-21 Pilot After Jordan Mediation
JN061840 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1740 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Reliable sources in Amman have stated that the Syrian pilot whose MIG-21 was shot down over Iraqi territory some 2 weeks ago was returned to Syrian authorities last night. The sources added that the Syrian pilot's release was the result of secret mediation undertaken by Amman. The pilot was released in a buffer zone located on the two countries' borders [not further specified].

Iraq had accused the pilot of intentionally violating Iraqi airspace for hostile purposes. Damascus rebutted this, stressing that the pilot had crossed the border after becoming lost.

Official sources in Amman have affirmed that Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i paid secret visits to Damascus and Baghdad. He settled matters during these visits and resolved the new dispute stemming from this incident. These sources added that Amman cannot allow the downing of this aircraft to undermine its protracted conciliation efforts between Baghdad and Damascus.

Businessman Comments on Gulf War, French Hostages
JN062112 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
2000 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] In a statement to the French radio Europe 1, Syrian businessman 'Umran al-Adham said that his country is ready to wage a war against Iran if Iranian forces carry out aggression against an Arab country. Al-Adham's statement angered those who heard him. It cannot go unnoticed, however, owing to reports that 'Umran al-Adham is closely associated with the Syrian presidency. Al-Adham is also cited as saying that Syria has been a friend of Iran since the start of the Khomeyniite revolution, but this does not mean, according to him, that Syria was slow to warn Iran against spreading the war. He added: We will not allow Tehran to go further in the dispute. We regret the continuation of this war, which is destroying two countries.

The Syrian businessman continued: President Hafiz al-Asad has repeatedly announced that he will not allow the dispute to spread. He also warned Iran against carrying out aggression against Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, or any other Arab country. Al-Asad stressed that Syria, in this case, will not stand idly by, and that it is ready to fight alongside the Arab country or countries against whom aggression is perpetrated.

Al-Adham had earlier undertaken a mediation mission for the French hostages in Lebanon. Commenting on this issue, he said: All the hostages are in Beirut's southern suburb. Everyone knows this. But in tackling the issue, Westerners exaggerated it. They must now ignore it. He added: I feel sorry for saying so, but we must be realistic. If we were entrusted with the duty of resorting to force in order to release the hostages, we would not hesitate to do so.

We wish to note that 'Umran al-Adham's statement did not arouse any official reaction in France.

Arab Envoys in Dhaka Support Saudi Mecca Actions*BK070529 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 5 Aug 87*

[Text] Arab ambassadors in Dhaka have strongly condemned the recent demonstration by Iranian pilgrims in Mecca and expressed total solidarity with the Saudi Government for steps taken to protect the pilgrims.

The Kuwaiti ambassador in Dhaka, after a formal meeting of the ambassadors, told newsmen that the demonstration was in conflict with Islamic ethics.

Diplomats of Saudi Arabia, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Libya, Algeria, and the PLO attended the meeting.

Government To Release Prisoners on Hajj Festival*BK040454 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
0110 GMT 4 Aug 87*

[Text] The government has decided to release 303 prisoners from jail on the occasion of the holy 'Id al-Adha. The detenus [detainees] to be released include the under trial prisoners and the persons detained under the Special Powers Act, 1974. The government hopes that these people after their release will refrain from committing crimes and activities against law and order and will contribute to the building of the nation.

Editorial Urges India To Improve Relations*BK061506 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER
in English 31 Jul 87 p 5*

[Editorial: "Neighbourly Obligations"]

[Text] Bangladesh has nothing but goodwill for its neighbours, particularly India. That also is the principle on which its foreign policy is based — friendship with all and enmity toward none. That it has been consistently pursuing it is borne out not only by the way it has been seeking solution of its outstanding problems with India through negotiations. The spirit of cooperation and amity between the neighbours in the region, embodied in the South Asian [Association] Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and India's active response to it is incontestable proof that Bangladesh is committed to the maintenance and continuance of the same order of relationship with its neighbours. Against such a background the reported government-sponsored media (press and television) campaign in India against Bangladesh is most unfortunate. The recent such media activity in India bears on the Chakma refugees in India and Chittagong Hill Tracts. Stories of repression of the tribal community by the Government of Bangladesh or such whoppers as forcible conversion of Buddhist citizens to Islam have no basis in fact, and are a discordance that has come as a shock and surprise to the people and Government of Bangladesh.

Much the same is bound to be the reaction of the Government of India and the sensible section of the Indian public. Besides, in the face of Bangladesh's persistent desire and action to improve good neighbourly relations with India anything like this is and ought

to be wholly out of place, and its only intelligible rationale seems to be a sort of motiveless malignity which the Indian Government has as strong a reason to discourage as Bangladesh to legitimately protest.

It may be noted in this context that a terrorist force known as Shanti Bahini, allegedly operating from sanctuaries across the border as well as the issue of repatriation of Chakma refugees in India has figured in negotiations between the representatives of both countries, and satisfactory progress has been made in solving the issues. In fact full arrangements were in place to receive the refugees back on more than one occasion. And the latest talks produced results to suggest the refugees could come back home and avail themselves of the rehabilitation facilities provided by the Bangladesh Government.

Any campaign of the sort just alleged may only hinder such processes of restoration and rehabilitation, to the endless misery of those affected. There have been also reports of raids on the houses of innocent inhabitants of Chittagong Hill Tracts resulting in destruction of lives and property. To put an end to such cynical activity by a set of miscreants whom India can have no sensible reason to endorse (India's pronounced policy being containing of terrorism in any form) Bangladesh has kept up continual contact with the Indian Government.

Bangladesh can scarcely believe that India can in conscience, political or moral, support such activities or activists. It is indeed hard to understand how despite repeated profession by Indian leaders of goodwill and good neighbourliness it should be so different in practice and at times, so disappointing. As a far and away the biggest country and neighbour India could perhaps behave a little bigger than it is thought to be doing. It is time perhaps the present leadership and any in future (a democracy always thinks in terms both of present and future requirements in everything) to re-examine de novo the whole gamut of relations with her neighbours.

The legacy of strained relations going back about half a century is the visible or invisible bane of good relations. A break with it and a pleasant alternative found for it is more than due. It is almost historically so. In a sense this subcontinent is yet to wriggle out of the inhibitions of the past and make a new beginning in bilateral relations. Needless to say the bigger share of this initiative naturally lies with the biggest country among them, i.e. India. One wonders if India is quite alive to this natural, moral and geopolitical obligation and would rise to it.

Opposition Leader Calls For Unity To Remove Ershad*BK061500 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER
in English 4 Aug 87 p 8*

[Text] Baksal [Bangladesh Awami Krishak-Sramik Awami League] President Mr Mohiuddin Ahmed on Monday called for broad opposition unity aiming at removal of the present Government. Stressing the need for consensus of the opposition parties he said the emancipation of the people lies in the fall of the Government.

Addressing a press conference at the National Press Club after his release from detention he told a questioner it is up to the opposition members whether to participate in the debate on District Council Bill or not. Participation in the debate by opposition MPs on the controversial bill would mean defeat of the movement in which 12 persons were killed.

He also demanded repeal of Special Powers Act-1974 in the changed context. He said it is now being used as a weapon against the people. It may be recalled here that Baksal leaders Mr Mohiuddin Ahmed, Mr Abdul Momin Talukder and Mr Abdur Razzak were also members of the then ruling Awami League when the act was passed. Earlier, Baksal Secretary General Mr Abdur Razzak in a written statement demanded release of all political detenus [detainees] including Mr Nirmal Sen, Kazi Arif,

Mainuddin Khan Badal, Sharif Nurul Ambia, Syed Kabir Ahmed, Giasuddin Ahmed and Khorshed Alam.

Mr Razzak termed the returning of the District Council Bill to the Parliament as a defeat of the Government to people's movement.

The present tempo of movement cannot be curbed by giving any concession to anybody, he said.

He was also critical of coup leaders of 1975. He held Ershad Government responsible for their rehabilitation. He said people would not forgive them.

Sikh 'Militants' Reject Homeland Proposal

BK070336 Hong Kong AFP in English 0007 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Amritsar, India, Aug 6 (AFP) — Sikh militants Thursday [6 August] firmly rejected a proposal of a Sikh homeland within the Indian union, declaring that they want nothing short of an independent country to be called Khalistan.

The militant-backed Panthic Committee's position was viewed by observers here as a head-on confrontation with Sikh high priest Darshan Singh, who convened a convention here Tuesday where the proposal was adopted. The committee alleged that Mr. Singh's actions were aimed at weakening the separatist movement in Punjab.

The Panthic Committee last year "declared" the formation of Khalistan here at the Golden Temple, the holiest Sikh shrine. It said in a two-page unsigned statement that Mr. Singh, one of Sikhdom's five high priests, was "distorting and insulting the history of Sikhs" by asking them to fight "with words, not with weapons." Sikh political leaders should buy weapons "to arm the youth to meet the challenge posed by Delhi," the committee said.

Mr. Singh's convention, held at the Golden Temple complex, was attended by academics, Sikh political party representatives and other eminent Sikhs. The moderate Akali Dal Party, led by former Punjab chief minister Surjit Singh Barnala, was not invited.

New Wave of Sikh 'Militant Violence' Feared

BK061445 Hong Kong AFP in English 1436 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 6 (AFP) — New Delhi has ordered northern states to seal their borders with Punjab amid fears of a new wave of Sikh militant violence, official sources said here Thursday. Police patrols fanned out in New Delhi late Wednesday following reports that a four-member Sikh death squad had infiltrated the city, its target being the leaders of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's ruling Congress (I) Party.

As the alert was put into effect, members of Punjab's Sikh Akali Dal government, dismissed after the state was put under presidential rule in May, met federal opposition groups here Thursday, Akali Dal sources said. A former Punjab minister told *Agence France-Presse* the aim of the meeting was to agree on a campaign to press for a dialogue between Mr Gandhi's government and Sikh militants. He said those attending the meeting were hoping for talks to reach an agreement similar to the accord India signed with Sri Lanka last week to end the island's Tamil separatist conflict.

Official sources, citing intelligence reports, said militant Sikh separatist groups would try to spread panic in the Hindu-dominated states of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh to focus attention on their demands for a homeland.

The Home Ministry sounded the alert after 400 Sikhs in Punjab Tuesday resolved to "achieve an area and a political set-up in the north (of India) where Sikhs could enjoy the glory of indepen-

dence," the sources said. New Delhi directed northern states to close down borders with Punjab and deployed paramilitary troops in several towns, official sources said.

Mr Gandhi sacked Punjab's ruling Akali Dal Party May 12 and ordered direct federal rule in the state to stem separatist-linked violence. The prime minister has ruled out a dialogue with Sikh separatists until they renounce violence which has claimed more than 560 lives in Punjab this year.

Violent Incidents Continue in Punjab State

12 Die in 'Terrorists' Attack

BK070318 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] In Punjab, according to a message just received, two groups of terrorists attacked a village Jagdeo Kalan in Amritsar District late last night. Twelve persons were killed in indiscriminate firing. Further details are awaited.

In another incident, four persons, including a terrorist, have been killed since last night. In Jullundur, one terrorist was killed when police returned the fire after an attack near village Haripur early this morning. Two farmers were killed by terrorists in Ludhiana and Gurdaspur Districts. Another person died in an attack by terrorists in village Nabuke in Amritsar District.

A Punjab government spokesman has in the meanwhile clarified that nobody has been killed in any fake encounter with the police or paramilitary forces in the state. He denied having received any specific complaint in this regard. He said all those who have been killed in encounters were notorious terrorists responsible for a number of heinous crimes.

Curfew Imposed in Amritsar

BK070850 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] An indefinite curfew has been clamped in the walled city of Amritsar and Durgiana Mandir area from noon today. This follows tension in some parts of the city. Earlier, police opened fire to control a violent mob in a funeral procession.

Police Fire at Crowds Near Atomic Plant in Gujarat

BK070507 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0435 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] In Gujarat, police fired to disperse unruly crowds indulging in stone throwing near the Kakrapar atomic power plant under construction yesterday. No one was injured in the firing, but six policemen sustained injuries in stone throwing. The violence occurred during the course of a meeting organized by the anti-Kakrapar Atomic Power Plant Committee to observe Hiroshima Day.

Bomb Blast in Darjeeling; Police Firing Kills 1

BK070346 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] In Calcutta, one person was killed and another injured when police opened fire to disperse two warring groups in a slum in Golf Club area yesterday. Police say a bomb was thrown at the intervening police personnel, injuring six of them.

In Darjeeling, one person was killed and four injured in a bomb explosion in Chak Bazaar. Two of the injured are in a serious condition. The bomb was kept in a suitcase left in a tea store. The shop was damaged in the explosion. The entire area has been cordoned off as a precautionary measure.

Gandhi Denies Involvement in Bofors Deal

BK071021 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service
in English 0858 GMT 7 Aug 87

["Text"] of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's statement to the Lok Sabha [Lower House] on 6 August on the Bofors issue]

[Text] During the course of discussion on Bofors case both inside and outside House many allegations have been made. Rumours and unfounded suspicion have been used to tarnish the image of the country and its leadership.

I categorically declare in this highest forum of India's democracy that neither I nor any member of my family have received any consideration in these transactions. This is the truth.

I have repeatedly stated in both Houses that if enquiries establish that any person has been guilty of receiving illegal payment strongest action under law will be taken.

Congress and its government are as interested as anyone else in finding out the truth. Let all sections of the House cooperate in this common task.

Defense Minister's Statement

BK061654 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Excerpts] The prime minister made a categorical declaration in the Lok Sabha today that neither he nor any member of his family received any consideration in the transactions relating to the Bofors gun deal. [passage omitted] Later, the House adopted by a voice vote the government motion with official amendments to set up a parliamentary panel to probe the Bofors gun deal. The entire opposition barring the AIADMK [All India Anna Dravida

Munnetra Kazhagam] staged a walkout as the speaker did not allow them to speak on their amendments, which the House rejected. [passage omitted]

The government has agreed to the opposition suggestion that the committee should find out whether the procedures for acquiring weapons and systems have been adhered to in the purchase of the Bofors guns. It will ascertain the identity of the persons who received payments from Messrs Bofors. The committee will have assistance from the controller and auditor general and the attorney general of India as well as investigating agencies.

Another important amendment provides for the ministers to give evidence before the committee if the speaker considers it necessary. The committee will submit its report by the last day of the first week of the next session of Parliament.

The defense minister, Mr Pant, regretted that the opposition has been trying to create an impression that the government is not interested in getting at the truth in the matter of payments by Bofors. He said in the face of steps taken by the government ever since the publication of the Swedish national radio report in Indian newspapers, its seriousness of purpose cannot be questioned by any unbiased observer. He said it was entirely due to the government's persistence that the Swedish Government established the National Audit Bureau enquiry. On receipt of the report on 4 June this year, it was made public the same day and the opposition leaders were consulted.

Mr Pant pointed out that the audit bureau report had a major flaw as it did not mention the names of those who received the commission. On the day the report was received the government announced the joint parliamentary committee to go into the deal after consulting the opposition.

The defense minister told the House that the guns have started arriving and they are found up to the expectations and requirements of the Army. He said the 15-percent reduction in the cost of the whole deal was secured when the deal was clinched at 1,427 crore rupees. Strongly defending the gun deal, Mr Pant said it is sad that unnecessary doubts are being raised about it. Mr Pant cautioned the members not to give credence to unsubstantiated rumors about the quality of the country's weapon system.

About the demands for scrapping the deal, the defense minister pointed out that it is not desirable on accounts of legal, financial, and security implications. Mr Pant also rejected the opposition demand for including the submarine deal with West Germany in the term of reference of the committee. He said it was premature to even think of it, as an investigation into the deal is in progress.

Khamene'i Sermon on U.S., Saudi Roles in 'Massacre'
LD061540 Tehran IRNA in English 1524 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 6, IRNA — Friday prayer leader of Tehran Hajjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Khamene'i said here today that the impact of the ruthless Mecca massacre will have wide ranging repercussions throughout the Muslim world.

President Khamene'i made the assertion in the first sermon of the 'Id al-Adha prayers where he singled out arrogant motives for creating the cold-blooded pilgrim slaughter. Global arrogance, following its repeated set backs vis-a-vis the Islamic revolution and the Iranian nation, vainly thinks that the Islamic movement would be confined inside Iran because, he added, as a principle a revolution is dead and annihilated if it is restricted inside a single territory.

To this end, said the president, they started a planned move to counter the message of the revolution from spreading throughout the world, by launching large-scale propaganda in various fields to tarnish the Islamic revolution's image.

Islamic Republic enjoys a natural and innate power base among its officials and people which can be displayed in the great arena of the hajj pilgrimage, among the multitudinous presence of world Muslims, said the president. During the hajj ceremony, the Muslims can see the real portrait of the Islamic Republic, he noted.

He said presence of Iranian pilgrims in the first hajj ceremony, following the victory of the Islamic revolution in 1979, marvelled the other participants who considered the rallies of the Iranian pilgrims as signs of power, faith, valour, committed to the lofty goals of the Islamic revolution. In this ceremony, Iranian pilgrims cried out for the unity of the Muslim ummah and opposition to eastern and western hegemony.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i said this great Islamic base (hajj) alarmed enemies of Islam as Muslim demonstrations grew bigger and bigger in the post-revolutionary period, especially the powerful presence of Iranian pilgrims this year. That is why they (enemies) responded with a dastardly anti-human reaction by brutally massacring defenceless pilgrims in Mecca last Friday, he remarked.

U.S. involvement in the pilgrims' massacre is crystal clear, said Khamene'i, adding that it is natural that America cannot tolerate the bright emergence of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the hajj ceremony because of its (U.S.) defeats despite nine years of propaganda and seven years of imposing a war on Iran.

Feverish propaganda efforts of global arrogance and the Saudi regime to justify the carnage of pilgrims is futile and they cannot remain secure from the dire consequences of the gruesome incident under any circumstances, warned the president.

Condemning efforts of the Saudi rulers who are trying to misportray the Mecca massacre as a fighting between Shi'ite and Sunni Muslims, the president said such an issue is meaningless even inside Iran which has eliminated the possibility of such disputes in any part of the world by its message of unity.

Enemies are trying to interpret the war between a revolutionary Islam and a U.S.-sponsored Islam according to their whims, Khamene'i said, adding "but in fact this war is a war between a genuine Islam and a false Islam, the latter spearheaded by the Saudi hirelings."

The Tehran prayer leader brushed out statements of some "court mullahs" in Saudi Arabia and elsewhere that the "antipathy towards pagans" rally is an innovation in Islam. He replied innovation is introduced by these very mullahs who seek to implement only part of the divine obligations and unabashed by pass over the rest which jeopardize the interests of their masters.

At the end of the first sermon Khamene'i stressed that no doubt outcome of this barbaric massacre will be against global arrogance and its stooges. Iranian nation and government will punish these criminals, he added.

In his second sermon, Khamene'i announced fresh victories of the Iranian combatants in the western fronts where he said Muslim forces liberated "Dopaza" heights overlooking the border town of Sardasht during the Nasr-7 operations inside northeastern Iraq. More than 200 Iraqi troops have so far been captured, he told the cheering worshippers.

Musavi-Ardabili Preaches on Mecca, Gulf, USSR
LD071219 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Millions of our Muslim compatriots have performed Friday's politico-ideological prayers throughout the country, including the inhabitants of Tehran, who have gathered at Tehran University and its surrounding thoroughfares. While shouting "Death to America," "Death to Israel," and "Death to Al Sa'ud," they performed Friday prayers led by Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili.

In his Friday prayers sermons in Tehran today, Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili expressed his congratulations and condolences to the families of the honorable martyrs of the bloody Mecca tragedy. He warned the Saudi regime on this matter, saying: If Fahd and the Al Sa'ud princes think that by killing 500 pilgrims to the house of God their problems are over, they should realize that if the problem of Hajaj ibn Yusef [a governor of the Ummayyad period] has ended, then their problems will also come to an end.

The president of the Supreme Court said that the Mecca tragedy is like a bullet in the heart of the world's Muslims. Addressing Muslims throughout the world, he said: Today it is disgraceful that the Ka'bah, which belongs to hundreds of millions of Muslims, should be at the disposal of the United States. Those Muslims who want freedom and independence and who struggle against imperialism must first liberate the Ka'bah and then their country. We, the oppressed, have sufficient power to put the oppressor in his place, with the assistance of the power of the Almighty.

Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili spoke about the regional situation: We are not seeking war in the Persian Gulf. Referring to the

increased U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf, he said: Reagan is trying to tell the American people that there will be no war and that this is simply a maneuver to scare the Iranians. If Reagan thinks that an increased U.S. military presence in the Gulf will cause us to backtrack, then he thinks in very simple terms. We are defending our honor, independence, and rights. It is a point of pride for us to sacrifice our lives along this path. We will fight to the last man.

The president of the Supreme Court then referred to the demands of the Security Council concerning Iran's official reply to the latest Council resolution. He said: We do not know why the Security Council insists on receiving an official reply from us. Is not the tension created by the United States in the Persian Gulf contrary to the fifth clause of the Resolution? We are defending our honor and they tell us: Declare your position. However, the United States causes tension but need not declare its position. All such talk is baseless.

This imposed war has taken away our loved ones but has given us greatness, honor, and independence. There was a day when we could not sleep out of fear of the servants of the United States; but today the United States cannot sleep out of fear of our Mobilization forces. Noting that this war has given us technology, that Iran has succeeded in making most of its weapons, and that Iran's submarine was launched in the "Martyrdom" maneuvers, Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili said: Arrogance says that Iran is fighting with low-level technology. This is where our talent lies. Despite this, we have disgraced the United States in the Persian Gulf, a country which boasts the greatest technology in the world. We have achieved many successes in the "Nasr-7" and "Nasr-6" operations in Maymak and have captured important border heights in these operations.

In conclusion, the president of the Supreme Court pointed to the latest stance adopted by the Soviet Union [as heard] on the withdrawal of foreign forces from the Persian Gulf. He said: The presence of foreign forces in the Persian Gulf will only bring harm to the region. We ask the congressmen who have written to judicial authorities in the United States calling for a limitation on Reagan's powers regarding the war to come out with the truth. Reagan actually wants war and is warmongering. If a war were to start in the Persian Gulf tomorrow, all responsibility will have to be shouldered by the person carrying out such devious activity in the Persian Gulf.

'Martyrdom' Maneuvers Continue in Gulf, Strait

Exercises To End 7 Aug
LD062115 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
 2030 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] The spokesman for the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, Afshar, has announced that simultaneous with the last phase of the "Martyrdom" maneuvers on Friday, Guards and Mobilization Forces will march to Friday prayer gatherings throughout the country. The march will be a call of allegiance to the charter of the revolution and to the historic message by his eminence the imam. It will also declare the preparedness of the Guards Corps and Mobilization Forces to defend the Islamic countries. The

Guards and Mobilization Forces, while condemning the joint crime by the United States and Al Sa'ud, will seal their allegiance with the imam of the ummah, with the authorities, and with the people of the country.

Tehran Details Operations

LD061247 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
 1030 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Specialized operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] Navy were displayed this morning as part of the third phase of the grand "Martyrdom" maneuvers in the Persian Gulf and the strategic Strait of Hormuz. In the first part of today's operations, pilotless aircraft undertook aerial photography. Then an exercise was carried out to recapture the islands through clandestine operations by deploying frogmen jointly with operational and reinforcement forces.

Meanwhile, in a coordinated move with the Navy and IRGC frogmen, the fighters of the 66th Airborne Brigade of the Ground Forces of the IRGC sent in crack paratroopers to designated positions. They then crossed imaginary enemy lines. Other operations included the capture of fixed floating platforms; attacks on ships by deploying vessels carrying 106-, 107-, and 123-mm guns, as well as vessels carrying explosives detonated by remote control; and pilotless planes. These exercises were carried out successfully by the defenders of the Persian Gulf and displayed the IRGC's combat capability to perform martyrdom-seeking operations against the fleets of world arrogance in the Persian Gulf. These maneuvers are still in progress in the general region of Qeshm and Larak Islands and the Strait of Hormuz.

The Joint Staff of the three forces of the IRGC released a communique, announcing: The grand naval "Martyrdom" maneuvers will continue until Friday, 7 August. In this communique, all foreign ships and planes have been warned not to approach this area in the Persian Gulf, the Gulf of Oman, and the Strait of Hormuz until 2400 on Friday, 7 August. The Islamic Republic of Iran will not be responsible for any possible danger to vessels and aircraft in the area resulting from missiles and combat bullets used in these maneuvers.

'Hypothetical' Targets Attacked

LD061627 Tehran IRNA in English 1601 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Bandar-e 'Abbas, Hormozgan Prov., Aug. 6, IRNA — Special operations of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) naval units, involving unmanned reconnaissance flights were conducted during the third stage of the "Shahadat" [martyrdom] maneuvers in the southern waters Thursday.

IRGC frogmen gave a grand display of a surprise landing and capture of islands, while agile paratroopers of the IRGC Airborne Brigade 66 effortlessly landed on pre-determined positions breaking through hypothetical enemy lines.

Capture of anchored vessels, lightning attack on ships by fast moving speed-boats equipped with 106, 107 and 123 mm howitzers, deployment of remote-controlled explosive-laden boats and

flights of drones were successfully carried out by the "Persian Gulf defenders" in the third stage.

Martyrdom-seeking Basijis aboard thousands of speed-boats, staged mock amphibious operations during the second stage of the maneuvers, in the Strait of Hormuz and the Larak and Qeshm Islands early Wednesday, applaudingly watched by chairman of the Assembly of Experts Ayatollah 'Ali Meshkini, IRGC commander Mohsen Reza'i and commander of the IRGC naval units Hoseyn Ala'i.

The IRGC deployed its new warfare techniques, including speedboats, gunboats, and special boats equipped with missiles, howitzers, anti-aircraft guns and explosives, the newly manufactured anti-surface weaponry as well as the first IRGC submarine displaying their power against hypothetical targets of global arrogance in the Persian Gulf, Gulf of Oman and the strategic Strait of Hormuz.

According to IRNA correspondent, who witnessed the display aboard one of the vessels, scores of the said craft attacked hypothetical enemy positions on an island destroying coastal strongholds by heavy artillery fire, missiles, rocket-propelled grenades (RPG-7) and finally landing on it.

Meanwhile, commander of IRGC naval units Hoseyn Ala'i told IRNA that all equipment deployed in these maneuvers were manufactured inside the country and is perfectly ideal for the familiar waters of the Persian Gulf, Gulf of Oman and the Strait of Hormuz. They can be quickly put into operation in case of any possible U.S. aggression.

Ala'i said combat capability of the submarine and special boats equipped with anti-surface weaponry were "highly satisfactory." He further said that although Iran did not close the Strait of Hormuz during the maneuvers, shipping traffic in the strait was drastically reduced by 90 percent.

During the first stage of the maneuvers conducted Tuesday, 3 brigades, 3 naval brigades and a division based at the second IRGC naval zone, backed up by volunteer forces and personnel of Khark Island, attacked hypothetical enemy targets with tactical and diving operations both on land and sea. They were provided excellent support by boats carrying missiles, heavy and light weaponry and anti-aircraft guns.

Khamene'i Visits Missile Base

*NC070642 Tehran Domestic Service In Persian
0430 GMT 7 Aug 87*

[Text] Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, arrived in Hormozgan Province yesterday afternoon, the 3d day of the large-scale "Martyrdom" maneuvers in the Persian Gulf, and went immediately to a base where land-to-sea and surface-to-air missiles of the Islamic Republic Guards Corps [IRGC] are deployed. While inspecting the land-to-sea and surface-to-air missile bases in strategic areas of the Persian Gulf, he also witnessed the powerful presence of the brave fighters of Islam.

During these inspections, the commanders explained to Khamene'i the missile operations and the technical stages leading to the point of firing. Continuing this inspection, which was also attended by Ayatollah Meshkini, the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council issued orders to fire and a land-to-sea missile was launched.

The Friday imams of Ahvaz and of Bandar-e 'Abbas, the IRGC commander, the commander of the Navy, the ministers of Revolution Guards, petroleum, and roads and transport, and a number of IRGC officials were also present during the inspection.

Khamene'i Attends Maneuvers

*LD071129 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 7 Aug 87*

[Text] The last phase of the grand "Martyrdom" maneuvers began this morning in the presence of Mr Khamene'i, president of the republic and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council. He was aboard one of the hundreds of Iranian speedboats and combat vessels in the strategic region of the Strait of Hormuz and the Persian Gulf.

According to this report, hundreds of combat vessels and fighting boats of the Navy of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] circled the waters of the region and, after passing by the strategic Strait of Hormuz, paraded in front of the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council.

As the fighting ships passed by the command vessel, the fighters of Islam shouted "The Persian Gulf of Iran is the burial place of Reagan" and "War, war until victory." In this manner, they demonstrated their unwavering will to crush the plots of global arrogance and of the United States. At the same time several aircraft units of the IRGC Air Force performed exercises over this operational zone.

The parade of speedboats and combat vessels in front of the command vessel and the accompanying flight of aircraft from the IRGC Air Force lasted for several hours. The grand "Martyrdom" maneuvers continued as a fleet of helicopters from the IRGC Air Force joined the exercises.

According to this report, in continuation of the "Martyrdom" maneuvers, the IRGC forces stationed on an island attacked in an open and clandestine operation imaginary enemy bases and recaptured them. Frogmen from the IRGC Navy also captured an imaginary sea target, destroyed it with explosives, and returned to their bases.

Meanwhile, on the 3d day of the grand "Martyrdom" maneuvers the defensive capability of the ground-to-air defenses of the IRGC Air Force — defending the ports and islands of the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman — was put on display. In this exercise, all kinds of ground-to-air defensive weapons, including 23- and 57-mm [as heard] guns, and all types of defensive missiles of the IRGC Air Force, displayed their combat strength in defending the ports and islands of the Islamic Republic of Iran against possible threats.

The representative of imam in the IRGC, the commander in chief of the IRGC, the naval, Air Force, and Ground Force commanders of the IRGC, the naval commander of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and a number of civilian and military authorities, as well as local officials, were present at the ceremonies of the grand "Martyrdom" maneuvers.

Majlis Speaker on Internal Divisions Over War

AU070652 Paris AFP in English 0642 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Paris, Aug 7 (AFP) — Iranian leaders are divided over some of the choices they face in the war with Iraq, Iranian Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani says. Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, interviewed by the Iranian daily newspaper *Ettela'at*, also says that a decision to wage all-out war against Iraq could provoke public discontent and that the Iran-gate scandal revealed Tehran's continuing dependence on U.S. weaponry.

In the July 23 interview — published as the U.N. Security Council voted for a ceasefire in the Gulf conflict — Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that the continued pursuit of the war had the backing of all Iranian leaders, provided Iran's internal administration could continue to function normally. But he acknowledged that there were divisions on the political choices necessary to secure victory over Iraq. "On the military front," he was quoted as saying, "Iran can continue its present strategy, which consists of taking positions in Iraqi territory progressively in order to achieve the final goal. But this option takes time." A war of attrition, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani said, can be "dangerous, as our enemies can use time against us, as is seen in the Gulf crisis." But he added that the direct involvement of third powers in the conflict was unlikely.

Nevertheless, according to Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, if Iran comes to see itself as "endangered," a second option could be implemented, "one which mobilizes all its resources for the war, pushing into the background the country's other needs." He raised the possibility that Iran might "occupy strategic points between Baghdad and Basra (in southern Iraq) to cut off the southern part of the country from the capital." Iranian forces, he explained, are now eight or nine kilometers (five to six miles) from Basra. Such an initiative, he conceded, would require a major mobilization. "Last year we mobilized 500 battalions," he said. "We have the capacity to raise 2,000 others and to provide them logistical support. It's a political choice and there are differences on making it."

The war effort over the last year cost Iran three billion dollars, according to Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, stressing that pursuing a policy of all-out war could aggravate the economic crisis and provoke popular discontent. "The high cost of the war could dissuade the families of the Mostazafin (the Deprived), who supply most of our fighters," he observed and said he had asked himself if it were "opportune to ask people to tighten their belts any further."

In response to an observation by the *Ettela'at* interviewer that the Iran-gate affair — in which proceeds from U.S. arms sales to Tehran were used to fund contra rebels in Nicaragua — had

left Moslems somewhat "pessimistic" about Iran, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani said the matter had shown Iran's dependence on U.S.-made weaponry. "Our military arsenal essentially consists of American materiel, purchased under the ex-shah," he said. "We are obliged, against our wishes, to continue to buy American weapons on the open market, on which the Israelis are present. Israel tried to exploit the situation, aware of our arms needs and of the American sensitivity on the hostage issue." Certain Israeli figures are reported to have been involved in the arms sales, which Washington hoped would lead to the liberation of U.S. hostages held in Lebanon by pro-Iranian groups.

He disclosed that certain economic decisions that the government would like to take, such as imposing stricter state control on foreign trade, had been rejected by the Council for the Protection of the Constitution and other bodies dominated by religious leaders. "The attachment of these individuals to Islamic values based on free enterprise prevents them from endorsing such decisions," he said. On two occasions, he said, the institutional impasse had become so acute, notably when the Council had rejected laws adopted by parliament, that two meetings of senior leaders were called in the presence of the country's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Khomeini. During these meetings, he said, "I asked the Imam either to settle these disagreements himself or to empower certain officials to take rapid and revolutionary decisions."

Iranian sources in Paris said that besides Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, those taking part in the meetings were President 'Ali Khamene'i, the head of the Supreme Court, Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili, Ayatollah Khomeini's son, Ahmad. [sentence as received]

Second Group of Hajj 'Victims' Arrives 7 Aug

LD070635 Tehran IRNA in English 0630 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug 7 IRNA — The second caravan of Mecca carnage victims including 31 martyrs and 30 wounded hajj pilgrims arrived here aboard an Iran Air plane early today. The wounded were immediately taken to hospitals and the pure bodies of the martyrs transferred to the coroner's office.

Ministers of the interior, construction jihad, plan and budget, and roads and transport welcomed the group at the airport and talked to the wounded pilgrims. Some of the injured pilgrims explained the brutality of the Saudi police in attacking the demonstrators with dum-dum bullets and then with fire arms. They said the Saudi police had no mercy even on those who had already been wounded in the incident and that the police savagely beat them.

Mohashemi Meets Convoy, Comments

NC070510 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Following efforts by officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the second convoy carrying martyrs and wounded from the bloody Friday [31 July] tragedy in Mecca arrived in Tehran this morning. The pure bodies of this savage massacre's 50 martyrs were transported to Tehran via a special aircraft.

Our correspondent reports that a funeral ceremony was held at the airport once the holy bodies of the bloody Friday Mecca victims were transferred to Tehran. This ceremony was attended by the ministers of interior, reconstruction jihad, labor and social affairs, and planning and budget. The ministers then visited the wounded, giving them flowers to honor these dear ones' selflessness.

Our correspondent's report states that in addition to the 50 martyrs of the criminal massacre, the second convoy of bloody Friday's Mecca martyrs and wounded also included 25 injured persons, who were transported to Tehran to continue treatment. They were returned to our Islamic homeland thanks to the efforts made by the Islamic Republic's officials.

Our correspondent interviewed Mr Mohtashemi, the minister of interior, on the return of the remainder of this tragedy's wounded and the pure bodies of the martyred, as well as the pilgrims' protection until their return. We invite you now to listen to this interview.

[Begin recording][Correspondent] Mr Mohtashemi, how are the bodies of the martyred and wounded from bloody Friday in Mecca being transferred, and to what degree has Saudi Arabia so far cooperated in this?

[Mohtashemi] In the name of God, the Almighty. This was the second aircraft to travel to Saudi Arabia to transfer corpses, along with the wounded men and women, to Tehran. It is very clear that if Saudi Arabia had wanted to cooperate it would have sent all the wounded and corpses on the first aircraft. The aircraft involved is a jumbo jet that can carry more than 300-400 people. Cooperation was not at all good. There were no more than 50 bodies aboard this aircraft, and we must now send more planes to transfer bodies back to Tehran. Of course, if they had wanted to cooperate — which they do not want to do, since they wish to prolong the issue — they could have sent all the corpses and wounded to Tehran on one plane. As you saw today, we have received a number of wounded, one of them an old man who was very severely injured in the eyes and legs. There were also a number of others. Since they did not allow all our wounded to return, some helpless sick and elderly people, a few of whom suffer from heart disease, were also returned to Tehran with the wounded and the corpses.

[Correspondent] The other point that our people and officials are focusing on is the pilgrims' security and their return to Tehran. What contacts have been undertaken in this connection, and what steps have been taken to date?

[Mohtashemi] As I stated in my message to Nayif [ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, Saudi minister of interior], the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Interior is, for the time being, responsible for security since the police fall under its jurisdiction. Security has not yet been established, and our pilgrims did not enjoy full security. The Saudi Ministry of Interior was unable to establish security, either because of its subservience or its own incompetence. The contacts that have been made, in addition to my message to Nayif, passed through a headquarters named by the Foreign Ministry in Tehran. This office is in constant contact with Saudi Arabia — Riyadh and Jeddah. There have also been indirect contacts

between this headquarters and the imam's mission and Saudi Arabian officials, carried out through the authorities concerned. The necessary recommendations have been made, and an ultimatum was delivered to the Saudis by officials both there and here in Tehran. Responsibility for the results of any breach of security have been placed on the Saudis, and they should answer for any such breach. Of course, the Islamic Republic of Iran, our martyr-nurturing ummah, and the Hezbollah ummah throughout the world will not allow the Saudi police and the Saudi regime's shameful and tragic acts to go unanswered. This is even though the direct responsibility for these events rests on the shoulders of America, which issued the order. We will take our revenge against America directly.

[Correspondent] Thank you very much. [end recording]

FRG Official Offers Condolences to Envoy in Bonn

NC060835 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] According to Central News Unit correspondents in Bonn, the FRG foreign minister's adviser on Middle East affairs met the Islamic Republic of Iran's envoy to the FRG yesterday on behalf of FRG Foreign Minister Genscher. He expressed sympathy and requested that his condolences and those of the FRG Government be conveyed to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Combat Operations in War With Iraq Continue

4,000 Iraqi Casualties

LD061313 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] The Khateem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, center for the joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on the second phase of the victorious "Nasr-7" operations, has issued the following communique:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Islamic ummah, self-sacrificing and revolutionary nation: The powerful and heroic fighters of the army of monotheism, continuing the victorious "Nasr-7" operations, started the second phase of these operations at 2000 last night with the sacred codename "O Zahra, peace be upon her" [Zahra is the title given to Fatimah, the prophet's daughter] in the Qal'at Dizah region in Iraq. They gained great victories and inflicted heavy losses and casualties upon the criminal enemy.

In these victorious operations, the fighters of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, following heavy clashes with the Zionist enemy and overcoming obstacles, minefields, and booby-traps, and crossing difficult terrain, succeeded in liberating Heights 2144 and 2120 of the Kani-Bough mountain ranges inside Iraqi territory. Also, the paved road from Sardasht to Qal'at Dizah was occupied by the powerful forces of Islam. The Bolfak border post was liberated and came under the control of our forces.

This phase of operations was carried out in order to completely secure Dopaza Heights, which had been liberated in the first phase of operations, as well as to complete the predetermined goals of the operations. During these operations the 18th and 81st Brigades from 24th Iraqi Division, two of whose battalions were destroyed during the first phase of the operations, were completely destroyed. Also two battalions from National Defense [Difa' al-Watani] from the 29th Brigade of the 24th Iraqi Division were 100 percent destroyed.

In this phase of the operations, 2,000 more enemy forces were killed or wounded. The total number of enemy casualties now exceeds 4,000. Also, with the capture of further numbers of Zionist forces by the forces of Islam, the number of POW's captured in these operations reached 255. In addition, 10 tanks and personnel carriers and 55 enemy military vehicles of different types were destroyed, and a large quantity of their heavy and semi-heavy weapons were set on fire or were captured intact by the fighters of Islam. By completely controlling the liberated heights and positions, and by executing fire over enemy positions, the fighters of Islam denied them any movement.

[Signed] Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, center for joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Islamic Republic's Armed Forces

Baghdad Silent on 'Nasr-7'

LD061649 Tehran IRNA in English 1618 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Aug. 6, IRNA — Accurate artillery fire of the Iranian forces on an Iraqi motor pool overlooking Majnun Islands set afire more than five military vehicles and killed and wounded a group of Iraqi troops today.

Meanwhile, 48 hours after the victorious Nasr-7 operations launched in northeastern Iraq Tuesday night, the Ba'thist regime is still keeping its silence over the attack. In the Nasr-7 theatre, the Muslim forces have so far killed and wounded thousands of

Iraqi troops and captured hundreds of others including a commander and 15 officers. Political observers say Baghdad's silence against the recent Iranian victories confirms the defeat and retreat of the demoralised Iraqi troops in the area.

Communique No 2,920

LD061750 Tehran IRNA in English 1727 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 6, IRNA — Iranian jet fighters pounded Iraqi positions and units in Maymak operational region this morning inflicting heavy losses on the enemy. All attacking planes returned safely to bases, the 2920th Joint Staff communique said here today.

The communique said long-range artillery fire of Iranian combatants on Iraqi positions and strongholds in the northwestern fronts provided excellent cover for the Muslim forces to liberate Dopaza Heights 2379 and 2130 as well as Heights 2144, 2304 and 2185 in the region.

Iranian forces attacked enemy perimeters in Maymak Heights during a string of coordinated operations early Wednesday, mopping up isolated remnants of the Iraqi troops in the region. They also chased the enemy forces with their artillery fire.

Naval forces of the Islamic Republic in addition to controlling movements of Iraqi vessels in the Khawr 'Abdallah waterway as well as around Al-Bakr and Al-'Amayah platforms, intercepted and searched 15 cargo ships and tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Wednesday. The vessels were allowed to continue voyage since no suspicious cargo turned up on board. Over 10 Iraqi gun emplacements, a mortar launcher and a jeep were destroyed and a group of enemy troops were killed when their engineering activities in parts of the western and southern fronts came under artillery fire of the Gendarmerie Forces Wednesday, concluded the communique.

1 Killed, 27 Injured in Peshawar Blast 7 Aug
BK070812 Karachi Overseas Service in English
0800 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] One person was killed and 27 injured in a bomb explosion in a shop on G.T. Road in Peshawar at 1135 this morning. The injured persons have been rushed to the Lady Reading Hospital.

Democratic Party Chief on U.S. Ties, Afghan Issue
BK051030 Karachi DAWN in English 1 Aug 87 p 3

[By staff correspondent]

[Text] Multan, July 31: Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, Chief of Pakistan Democratic Party, has said that Pakistan should not depend upon the United States as it ever betrayed its allies like Pakistan and it should adopt independent and non-aligned foreign policy.

Talking to this correspondent at his Khangarh residence, he said that the United States was using Pakistan for its nefarious designs and it should not sign nuclear nonproliferation treaty (NPT) and it should wait the response and attitude of the Indian Government.

He said that the U.S. was our close ally but it stopped the supply of arms in 1965 for the pleasure of India, at the cost of Pakistan's security and the US did not send its Seventh Fleet in 1971 for the security of East Pakistan, as a result of which Pakistan [was] dismembered.

He said that NPT was against our national prestige and independence and ruling class should not accept any pressure of America in this respect.

He strongly criticised the discriminative attitude of United States towards Pakistan on nuclear issue and said that the intention of Israel and South Africa to obtain nuclear capability had come to light whereas, India had detonated nuclear device in 1974, but Americans did not pressurise them in such a way as they have been dealing with Pakistan.

Nawabzada said that United States was supporting Pakistan on Afghan issue to check the flood of Russian communism but Pakistan should resolve the issue according to the desires of Afghan people and in the light of its own interests, so that the Afghans could go back to their homeland.

He admitted that we had provided shelter to Afghan refugees on humanitarian, and religious ground, but the United States was exploiting them for its evil designs.

He said that the proposed all-party conference, to be held at Lahore on Aug 16, would help in gathering the political parties on one point — holding elections on party basis and transfer of powers to the elected representatives.

Nawabzada said that Gen Ziaul-Haq had given out of the way respect to traitors, secessionists and parochialists like Yahya Khan, G.M. Syed and others.

Yahya Khan, he said, was a bigger traitor than Mir Sadiq and Mir Jafar, but he was buried with honour and G.M. Syed was called patriot and a "Gul-Dasta" [wreath] was sent to him by President Zia.

President Addresses Nation on Peace Accord
 BK070359 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English
 0200 GMT 7 Aug 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Aug 06 (*Lanka Puwath*) — Sri Lankan President J.R. Jayewardene in a nation-wide television and radio address tonight said those who have been carrying on a bloody battle against the democratically elected Government of Sri Lanka, for almost 12 years have handed over their arms as a symbolic gesture in Jaffna.

The arms were handed over to my delegations led by Sepala Attiygalle, secretary of defence and General Cyril Ranatunge.

I think we have come to the end of a very bitter war.

This has been able to be performed because of the accord for peace and normalcy which I signed with the Prime Minister of India Rajiv Gandhi on Wednesday [5 August].

This accord has three or four aspects. One aspect has to be administered by the Government of India, the other aspect by the Government of Sri Lanka and the third aspect by the terrorists.

The Government of Sri Lanka has to see that we withdraw our forces which are already used in times of emergency, that we maintain law and order through the police and that we give a pardon or an amnesty to all those who committed offences in the North and the East.

We also have to declare that the provinces of Sri Lanka including the North and the East should be governed by provincial councils under the central Government of Sri Lanka and that they should elect their chief ministers and border [as received] ministers under a government and a governor appointed by me.

There was also a new proposal suggested that the North and the East should form one unit, should have one provincial council, should have one governor and should have one chief minister elected by the people.

But this is purely temporary — not for ever — temporary until the Eastern Province, by a referendum which I will have to nominate within one year of an election of a provincial council by a referendum and by a single majority vote, decide that they should continue the joinder [merger] or they should separate.

I have no fear about the result of the referendum because all of us can go and work against a joinder and I intend to ask all those who are against a joinder to come with me and work in the Eastern Province to convince the people that the joinder should not be made permanent.

Therefore what are we quarrelling about, why are we killing each other in the South and why are we destroying our properties for no purpose whatsoever? For within one year the people of the East persuaded by all of us can decide against the joinder.

The Government of India has agreed to send away from India all those who campaigned for a separate state in Sri Lanka, who campaigned for the terrorists, who preached and practised terrorism.

They have also agreed to join with us and our Navy in the surveillance zone to prevent people coming from India with arms, ammunition and men to fight in Sri Lanka.

They have also agreed to help me with their forces to maintain law and order in the North and the Eastern Provinces and to see that the terrorists do not carry arms and they obey peace.

That is why I have invited the Indian forces to come to Jaffna and the Eastern Province.

They act on the directions that I give as the commander in chief of the forces in Sri Lanka and when I say please go back home, thank you for all that you have done, they will go away.

Till then they are there at my discretion.

The terrorists have agreed to lay down arms. They have agreed in the future to act democratically and they will come under the laws of Sri Lanka and under the central Government of Sri Lanka.

Therefore this accord has, I think for the first time after so many years, established peace in our country or at least a beginning of peace.

I am one who is totally against violence, violence in any form.

The human race has been able to distinguish itself from animals because they also believe in non-violence. They believe in democracy and they believe in society that is managed by laws and rules, whereas animals do not have those laws and rules. And, it reminds me of the great King Asoka when at the end of the war against Kalinga he was resting in his tent, a mother came bring her child who had died in the war.

She laid her child at his feet and said:

Lord, you have killed so many people — you have killed thousands of people — cannot you give life to my child? Cannot you give life to one person?

The king was unable to do that. The king had remorse. The king gave up war. He gave up war and became a Buddhist and he created the greatest and the noblest empire in the world, the Empire of Emperor Asoka. He is the one who sent his son Mahinda to Sri Lanka. He sent his daughter to Sri Lanka with the Bo tree, that was Sanghamitta.

Therefore I think friends we should adopt the principles that the Buddha and the Christ preached of non-violence.

Why should we when we have stopped violence in the North and the East, when we have stopped terrorism in the North and the East, why should we have terrorism in the South?

In the South they are killing each other just as they did in the North and the East a few months ago, a few days ago.

Now it is only in the South that we are having this.

I do appeal to all those Buddhists, Christians who love peace, who love non-violence help the government to stamp out the terrorism in the South that is occurring daily.

I therefore like to tell you all that this accord has brought us from darkness to light, brought us from war to peace. May this peace prevail in our country for many many more years to come. That is my earnest wish and desire.

Minister Sees Indian Forces Pulling Out in 2 Weeks

CH061231 Tokyo KYODO in English 1222 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Colombo, Aug. 6 KYODO — Gamin Dissanayake, Sri Lanka's minister for land, land development and mahaweri development, said Thursday some 4,000 Indian troops stationed in northern Sri Lanka will leave the island in two weeks.

Dissanayake, replying to a question about developments following the Sri Lanka-India agreement aimed at ending four years of armed ethnic conflict, said "the progress up to now has been very good."

Dissanayake, in an interview with *Kyodo News Service*, said he thinks "another two weeks at the most" before they (Indian troops) can leave.

"The disarmament (of Tamil guerrillas called the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) is going on very well. We feel that all the arms will be handed over," he said, adding "the main obstacle has been cleared."

The accord, signed by Sri Lankan President Jinius Jayewardene and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on July 29, outlines political settlement to give the Tamil minority a semiautonomous homeland in the north and east of the island.

"It is the question of working the accord ..., and the other challenge is to witness and even help the militants who have known (only) the bullet, accept the ballot, and working the system on," Dissanayake said.

Referring to relations with Japan, Dissanayake said "We rely a lot on Japan for help," calling for assistance on infrastructure development projects.

LTTE Leader States Military Wing 'Disolved'

BK051301 Colombo Domestic Service in Tamil 1230 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] LTTE leader Velupillai Prabhakaran has stated that only the political unit of his organization will function in the future.

The military wing of the LTTE has (?already) been dissolved as of today. Our special correspondent reports from Jaffna that Prabhakaran delivered this announcement during talks with Indian military officials this morning.

4,500 Tamils To Be Freed Under Amnesty

BK061022 Hong Kong AFP in English 1012 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Colombo, Aug 6 (AFP) — About 4,500 Tamil prisoners will be released from Thursday or Friday under an amnesty included in a peace pact to end Sri Lanka's ethnic conflict, government officials said.

A first batch of 1,007 prisoners, held under emergency regulations, would be freed either Thursday night or Friday and returned to the north and east by ship, Secretary in the Defence Ministry General D.S. Attygalle said.

The 3,500 others, many detained under a Prevention of Terrorism Act, would be freed shortly afterwards.

Their release would be discussed at a meeting between the Defence Ministry and the National Security Ministry Friday, Gen Attygalle said.

Secretary in the Security Ministry H.P. Hapudeniya said the Tamils were held at three centres south of the capital.

About 3,200 were at Boosa Camp and the other 1,300 split between Pelwatty and an overflow centre at Galle Harbour.

Tamils who have been convicted of terrorist crimes would have to obtain a presidential pardon before being freed, Mr Hapudeniya said.

Gen Attygalle announced the amnesty at an official ceremony in the northern Jaffna Peninsula Wednesday when Tamil militants made a token surrender of arms under the peace pact.

Many of the suspects were arrested under emergency regulations during military offensives or roundups after Tamil separatist attacks.

Several hundred suspects, taken prisoner during a June Army offensive in the north, had already been released from Boosa in recent weeks after vetting.

The detention of hundreds of Tamil suspects without trial brought strong condemnation of the Sri Lankan Government from international human rights organisations.